

Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Southern Connecticut State University Hilton C. Buley Library New Haven, Connecticut

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About the Art in Public Spaces Program

Connecticut's [Art in Public Spaces Program](http://www.cultureandtourism.org) was established in 1978 and requires that not less than 1% of the cost of construction or renovation of publicly accessible state buildings be allocated for the commission or purchase of artwork for that building.

Project Summary:

The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) and [Southern Connecticut State University](http://www.southernct.edu) (SCSU) are currently seeking the qualifications of artists for an exterior sculptural work of art for the campus of SCSU in New Haven, CT. The committee may consider additional locations and opportunities for art that relate to the larger installation.

Budget: \$305,000

Deadline: September 15, 2015

Eligibility:

Artists MUST register in the Art in Public Spaces Registry. Submit a new registration or update an existing profile by the deadline indicated above. Review the [Registry](#) for more information about the registration process. The SCSU opportunity is open to both in-state and out-of-state artists.

About Southern Connecticut State University and Buley Library:

Founded as a teachers college in 1893, Southern has evolved over the past century into a comprehensive university offering 114 graduate and undergraduate programs. SCSU is a teaching and research institution with more than 11,000 students located near [Westville Village](#) and less than three miles from downtown New Haven. The University maintains a strong focus on transformative learning and sustainability. To learn more, visit the following links; [Strategic Plan \(draft plan\)](#) and [Green at Growing Campus](#).

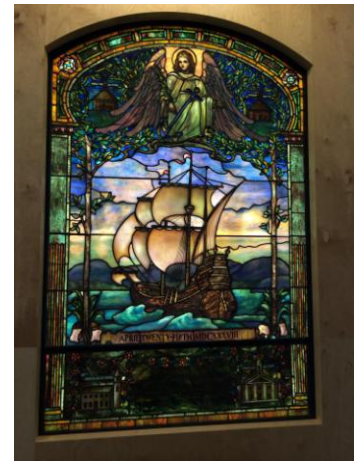
The new construction and renovations of the 245,000 sq.ft. Buley Library are complete. In addition to the traditional functions of a university library, the Buley Library includes Academic and Student Services, the campus Art Gallery, the Special Collections Gallery, and features [SCSU's cherished Tiffany stained-glass windows](#) along the south side reading area. The windows were originally installed in Buley in 1972 and recently underwent conservation before reinstallation in their new location.



Tiffany Window



Exterior -view of Tiffany window installation



Tiffany Window

Project Description:

The project architect along with a committee of representatives from SCSU convened and developed the framework for the new public art opportunity for the Buley Library project. Buley Library is the heart of campus as all students pass through its doors. With this in mind, artwork for this facility should be inviting and speak to the greater campus while maintaining a specific relationship to the library environment. The design and function of the sculptural installation should draw students to the library with a magnetic vibe. The artwork should represent student learning and student engagement, it should spur contemplation, and may consider any of the following terms and/or phrases: creativity, innovation, passage, pathway, students on a journey, tranquility, and a place to unwind.

The committee is considering an exterior sculptural installation located between Buley Library and the Adanti Student Center. The placement of artwork in this location would serve as a gathering and transitional space between two highly public campus buildings while serving as a campus gateway from the pedestrian overpass that crosses Fitch Street. The artwork may also be situated closer to the front entrance of the building where it has the potential to frame the building as bookends. In either location, the artwork should become an iconic feature of the university, something that becomes a portal into the library where ideas are born, nurtured, and launched.



Founders Gate

The campus is linked together through a [collection of public artworks](#) and historical artifacts. One such cherished site is [Founders Gate](#). Buley Library can be viewed through the gate from across the campus green, thus creating potential to establish a physical link between the old and the new with a sculptural installation that unites the past legacy of the University and is a bridge into the future.

Additional considerations include:

- The exterior artwork should complement the Tiffany windows and not compete, as they are a significant part of SCSU's artistic heritage and a focal point in Buley Library.
- Artwork must be visually compelling in both day and evening hours with a thoughtful lighting design.
- The artwork may be situated solely on the south side of the library, it may be located closer to the front entrance (serving as bookends), or it may include a series of components situated in compelling locations that unite together to create the larger installation.
- In addition to the exterior installation, the committee is receptive to the idea of a smaller work inside the vestibule of the library that echoes the larger exterior work.

Selection Process

The SCSU Buley Library project is administered as a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Therefore, artists interested in this project must first register a portfolio in the [Art in Public Spaces Registry](#). There is no application process. The SCSU selection committee will review the portfolios of artists registered in the database and will shortlist a group of artists who will be invited to submit site-specific proposals for the project.

Portfolios of artists already registered in the Art in Public Spaces Registry will automatically be reviewed. The registry is designed as a one-time registration process allowing artists to be considered for multiple projects; therefore, portfolios should indicate a range of work samples. Updates may be made but COA recommends limiting updates to no more than once a year.

Project Timeline *(All dates are subject to change)*

RFQ Deadline:

Identify shortlisted artists for proposal development:

Artist selected by:

Projected fully executed contract / project start date:

Project installation / work completed by:

Tuesday, September 15, 2015

October, 2015

February, 2016

Summer, 2016

Summer, 2017 *(or sooner if installation can be carried out during the academic year)*

ALL questions related to the Art in Public Spaces program and the SCSU opportunity, please contact:
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